

Belgium rounds up 26 in
anti-terror raids *pg 2*

Stichting Samenwerkende
Fondsen visits ... *pg 5*

Beach tennis champions
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North Korean artillery pounds S.Korean island



Huge plumes of smoke rise from Yeonpyeong island in the disputed waters of the Yellow Sea.

SEOUL, South Korea (AFP) — North Korea fired a deadly barrage of artillery shells onto a South Korean island yesterday in one of the most serious border incidents since the 1950-1953 war, inciting global condemnation.

South Korea's military went on top alert, its troops fired back with cannon and the government met in an underground war room, officials said, in response to what Seoul called an atrocity against civilians.

North Korea's supreme command, however, accused South Korea of firing first and

vowed "merciless military attacks with no hesitation if the South Korean enemy dares to invade our sea territory by 0.001 mm."

But condemnation of Pyongyang poured in from the United States, which has 28,500 troops in South Korea, along with Russia, Japan and Western Europe. UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon called for restraint from both sides after condemning the attack by the North.

No country has yet requested a meeting of the UN Security Council, diplomats said.

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The Aruba Tax Collection Department has a new management team



SIAD management team 2010

See story on page 3

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Violence grips Haiti ahead of key polls

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AFP) - Clashes between rival political factions have left two people dead in Haiti as growing violence and a raging cholera epidemic threatened yesterday to derail key post-quake elections.

The victims were shot dead late Monday in Beaumont, a small town in southwestern Haiti, after supporters of leading candidates Jude Celestin and Charles Henri Baker squared off armed with firearms, rocks and bottles.

Haiti, already ravaged by a catastrophic earthquake in January, is now battling a spiraling cholera epidemic that has killed 1,415 people, among

more than 56,000 cases, including 25,000 who required treatment in hospital.

United Nations health officials warned that the death toll was likely under-estimated, and that the impoverished nation could see up to 200,000 cholera cases in the next three months and 400,000 over the next year.

"Cholera is virtually everywhere in the country," said Jon Kim Andrus, deputy director of the Pan American Health Organization.

Human rights groups led the calls yesterday to delay the vote in light of the outbreak of the highly infectious disease.

The United Nations called yesterday for urgent funding for

Haiti, amid a shortfall in financing to help the country cope with a widening cholera epidemic.

Donors have stumped up only 6.8 million dollars so far out of 164 million dollars sought by the UN in an appeal 10 days ago, said Elisabeth Byrs, spokeswoman for the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs.

"The funding is much too weak. It's an extremely urgent situation, a question of hours. The epidemic is not waiting and continuing to evolve," she warned adding that relief material and medication had to be restocked urgently, and that exhausted aid workers needed some respite.

Belgium rounds up 26 in anti-terror raids

BRUSSELS, Belgium (AFP) - Police busted yesterday a Chechnya-linked Islamist network plotting to attack Belgium and rounded up another extremist group suspected of recruiting jihad fighters, amid heightened terrorism fears in Europe.

Authorities detained 11 people in Belgium, the Netherlands and Germany as part of an investigation into a plot against an unspecified target in Belgium.

Hours later, Belgian officials announced the detention of some 15 people in Brussels in connection with a separate probe into a group suspected of recruiting would-be "jihadists" willing to do battle in Iraq and Afghanistan.

In the first operation, a Chechen and six Belgian-Moroccan men were detained in the northern Belgian port city of Antwerp, three Dutch men in Amsterdam and a Russian national in Aachen, Germany, officials said.

"There were plans aimed at committing an attack in Belgium by an international terrorist group using for this purpose an extremist internet site, Ansar Al Mujahideen," said the Belgian prosecutor's office.

Belgian investigators spearheaded an international inquiry from 2009 into the suspect network, largely based in Antwerp.

"The target of the attack was not yet specifically determined," the prosecutor's office added, but there were "sufficient facts" to justify the raids.

No extra security measures will be enforced in Belgium, home to the European Union and NATO, a spokesman for the government's crisis centre said.

Those arrested are also suspected of recruiting "jihadist candidates" and financing "a

Chechen terrorist organisation, the Caucasus Emirate."

A judge will decide today whether to keep them behind bars pending charges.

Belgian authorities said several other people had already been arrested in Spain, Morocco and Saudi Arabia as part of the same probe, conducted with other countries and the EU's judicial cooperation unit Eurojust.

The arrests followed a three-year investigation into the Belgian Assabil Islamic Centre, considered a hotbed for Muslim radicalism since the 1990s.

A French-Syrian imam from the centre, Bassam Ayachi, was sentenced to four years in prison in Italy in May 2009 for smuggling illegal immigrants and is under investigation in Al-Qaeda-linked plots in France and Britain.



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As of last week

The Aruba Tax Collection Department has a new management team

ORANJESTAD -- As of November 16, 2010, Mrs. R.R. Lopez-Hernandez no longer occupies the post of Director of Tax Collection and Mr. C.A. Angela does not have the function of Specialist of Collection and Deputy Director of the Department of Dispensation. The reason is that there is a new management team who will take over the functions of these two persons.

It is no secret that things are not functioning accordingly in the Tax Collection Department, among others, assessment system income tax and revenue tax, tax restitution and dealing with letters of appeal / objection- and appeal letters. That brought along a proposal in Parliament to start with a detailed audit that pin pointed some errors and problems.

The Aruba government, following up on the motion of Parliament, requested a "performance quick scan" in the tax collection departments which was executed by the firm KPMG, a renowned accountant and tax service agency. The outcome of the scan confirmed that there is an extravagant delay in restitutions and handling of appeal and objections letters, which are the principal function in a tax collection department. It is in these functions that the previous management team failed enormously.

The scan also revealed that the previous team is not flexible and that it failed in the organizing and managing of the department with the consequence that the Government's income was at risk.

Furthermore there were projects that were not well

managed bringing along delays and more expenses. Also the improvement of the organization in order to give clients a better service was not done.

The abovementioned points are very important, this is why the Government finally decided to come with a new management team with the necessary experience to tackle cardinal organizing points

Deputy Director of the new management team is Mrs. D. Croes, who has 36 years working in the Tax Collection Department and in the past occupied the post of chief of different offices within the department, among others, Director of Collection. Also part of the team is mr. Quandus, judicial attorney and actual Excise Duty Deputy Managing Director, with almost 41 years of working experience in the Custom Department and who also worked all the different sections of the Custom Department; Mrs. R. Oosterwijk, judicial attorney with 19 years working in the private sector as tax advisor at one of the most renowned tax offices in Holland and Aruba. She has an important function in the Arubaanse Vereniging van Belastingadviseur - Aruban Association of Tax Advisor and in the Aruba Financial Center Association. Mrs. Oosterwijk will start working on December 1, 2010.

The management team is under the guidance of Mr. J DeLannoy, who formerly occupied the post of Bearing Point Director. He has master degree in Business Transformation and system implementation projects / transformation of companies and implementation of project systems in the public sector, and utility, gas and oil companies. Furthermore he has two years experience in people and business development.

Besides that, the management team must also improve the efficiency within the tax department and effect thorough investigational functions in the department. The Aruba government is confident that the management team, whose member's selection is based on their expertise in tax issues and organizing skills and counts on the collaboration of all SIAD personnel, in order to create a innovative tax collection department aimed at giving clients the best service possible.



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Aruban officials: Jawbone did not belong to Natalee Holloway

ORANJESTAD -- A jawbone found on an Aruban beach does not belong to the missing American teenager Natalee Holloway, authorities announced yesterday.

The determination was made using Holloway's dental records, according to a statement issued yesterday by the Aruba Public Prosecutor's Office.

Aruban Solicitor General Taco Stein said shortly after the announcement that they could determine quickly that the bone wasn't Holloway's -- the jawbone found on the beach had a wisdom tooth still attached and Holloway's dental records showed the teen had had her wisdom teeth removed.

Aruban authorities, Stein said, are checking with neighboring islands to see if the bone could be a match for any other missing persons.

A match was considered a long shot. In the five years since Holloway disappeared while on a school trip, there



has been no physical evidence to confirm that she had been killed.

The Aruban prosecutors office said a Dutch forensics team could extract only a small amount of DNA evidence from the one tooth that was still attached to the mandible. It was, they said, "of low quality."

"The bone appeared to have been exposed to various (weather) influences and proved to be porous," the state-

ment read.

Stein says experts determined that the bone came from a young person, but that it was in such poor condition they could not tell whether it belonged to a man or a woman. He says authorities will now be looking at past missing persons reports for possible matches.

For the time being, the forensics team has stopped working to test the DNA.

Stein said the news was "another tragedy" for Holloway's family, since it brought them no closer to learning what happened to their daughter.

"It's very sad for the parents to not have closure," he said in a later interview. "They must rest assured we are working hard to solve the case. Whether that will be in the near future, I cannot tell."

There was no immediate response to the news from Holloway's mother, Beth, but her father, Dave Holloway, thanked well-wishers after the announcement.



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Venezuela TV owner denies Chavez murder plot



Guillermo Zuloaga

CARACAS, Venezuela — An exiled Venezuelan television station owner denied accusations he is behind a \$100 million plot to murder President Hugo Chavez and said the furor is a smokescreen to distract attention from the government's failures.

"President, I do not want you dead," Guillermo Zuloaga, owner of pro-opposition TV station Globovision, said in a statement from the United States late on Monday.

"I want you healthy so as to see you when you stand before Venezuelans, and perhaps beyond our borders, for your government's bad rule and the vast fortune you have wasted."

In an escalation of the long-running feud between Chavez's socialist government and Globovision, the Venezuelan leader said at the weekend Zuloaga was one of those rounding up a \$100 million reward to offer a potential assassin.

Since coming to power in 1999, Chavez has deeply polarized his country, winning about a dozen elections and referendums thanks to his support base among poor Venezuelans but infuriating many, especially the wealthy, with radical policies like nationalizations.

Chavez often has alleged plots to kill him.

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Seven killed in Suriname gold mine collapse



MONEY HILL, Surinam -- The corpses of seven men killed after a gold mine collapsed, are seen on the ground, in Money Hill, 150 km southeast of Paramaribo, Suriname. Seven men were killed and two others were seriously injured when the sand walls of a gold mine collapsed in Suriname, police in the former Dutch colony said. The mine belongs to the Surgold concession, a joint venture between US-based multinationals Alcoa and Newmont. Money Hill is popular among small-scale wildcat miners, and Surgold has often urged them to halt their activities in the concession area and warned of the dangers of the illicit mining. (AFP PHOTO)

Vatican broadens case for condoms to fight AIDS

VATICAN CITY — Pope Benedict's landmark acknowledgement that the use of condoms is sometimes morally justifiable to stop AIDS is valid not only for gay male prostitutes but for heterosexuals and transsexuals too, the Vatican said yesterday.

The clarification, which some moral theologians called "groundbreaking," was the latest step in what is already seen as a significant shift in Catholic Church policy.

It came at a news conference to launch the pope's new book, "Light of the World: The Pope, the Church, and the Sign of the Times."

In the book, a long interview with German Catholic journalist Peter Seewald, the pope made clear he was not changing the Catholic ban on artificial contraception, but said that a prostitute would be justified using a condom to avoid transmitting the HIV virus.

Vatican spokesman Father

Federico Lombardi made the clarification because the German, English and French versions of the book used the male article when referring to a prostitute, but the Italian

version used the female form.

"I asked the pope personally if there was a serious distinction in the choice of male instead of female and he said 'No'," Lombardi said.

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Stichting Samenwerkende Fondsen visits Adopt an Addict Foundation



Recently, the Adopt an Addict Foundation received an official visit from the *Stichting Samenwerkende Fondsen*, the Dutch Cooperative Funds Foundation, at their Halfway House in Moko. The Dutch foundation works thru CEDE Aruba, helping with the financial donations for

outstanding projects on Aruba, Curaçao and Bonaire.

CEDE Aruba is a fund for the financing of projects of NGOs (nongovernmental organizations). CEDE Aruba operates in the areas of Welfare, Public Education and Public Recreation.

CEDE Aruba exists for 30

years and receives its funding from the governments of Aruba and the Netherlands, via the FDA, (Fundacion Desaroyo Aruba). Their mission is to contribute to the sustainable social and cultural development of Aruba. The representatives received ample explanations on the functioning of the halfway

house, how the clients are treated after finishing their rehabilitation therapy and how they are being prepared for their integration within the society as productive people.

Adopt an Addict would like to remind everyone and all companies wishing to make a donation before the

end of this year to their foundation and halfway house to please call at tel. 594-2492.

Photos show members of the Dutch delegation with representatives of CEDE Aruba, Adopt an Addict foundation and the director of the foundation's halfway house, Cas Speransa.

Sci-Tech

'Asian unicorn' and scaly anteater make endangered list



Asian Unicorn



Chinese Pangolin

LONDON (AFP) - A miniature sloth, the "Asian unicorn" and a bushbaby known as the rondo dwarf galago were recently added to the Zoological Society of London's list of genetically distinct and endangered mammals.

Three species of long-beaked echidna's are ranked

Kingston unveils USB 3.0 Hyper Max External Hard Drive

Kingston is continuing to encourage the growth and production of USB 3.0 devices with its HyperX Max 3.0 external hard drive.

It's offered in several different capacities - 64GB, 128GB, and 256GB. The drives utilize a Solid State Drive (SSD) rather than a traditional spinning hard disc to store your files. The SSD will allow the HyperX Max to consume less power, have faster data transfer speeds,

equal first on the evolutionary distinct and globally endangered (EDGE) list, which identifies the world's 100-most unique and threatened mammals.

"EDGE mammals are one-of-a-kind and they represent the true diversity of life on earth," said Carly Waterman, EDGE Programme

and will make the drive a more portable companion. The exterior is encased in a blue aluminum, so no smudges.

Unfortunately, unless you own a computer that has a USB 3.0 port you won't be able to benefit from its blazing fast transfer speeds.

However, it is backwards compatible with USB 2.0, which is the port of choice for many PC peripherals including mice and keyboards.



Rondo Dwarf Galago

Manager.

"If we let these species disappear, their extraordinary features and unique behaviours will be lost forever," she added.

Attenborough's long-beaked echidna, named after British wildlife broadcaster David Attenborough, makes the list as does the virtually-blind Ganges River dolphin.

The saola, or "Asian unicorn," was unknown to western science until 1992. The reclusive beast lives in the jungles of Laos and Vietnam, but it is thought there are only a few dozen of them left in existence.

One of the more bizarre creatures on the list is the Chinese pangolin, also known as a scaly anteater. The mammal is being over-exploited for its meat and for its skin and scales, which are used in traditional Chinese medicine.

Chinese dairy raises the bar for cow-pat power

BEIJING (AFP) - A Chinese dairy farm is installing the world's largest system to turn steaming cow pats into enough electricity to power thousands of homes, it was reported Tuesday.

The device at the Huishan Dairy is 10 times bigger than similar systems and will take the excrement from 60,000 cows and capture methane from the fermenting pats, according to Technology Review magazine.

It will generate almost six megawatts of electricity -- enough power for 3,500 American-size households but could service many more Chinese ones, which consume less energy.

The dairy, based in Liaoning province, northeast China, imports 3,000 cows



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Facebook messaging poses risks for users: tech watchdog

SINGAPORE (AFP) - Facebook's new online messaging service makes users of the social networking site more vulnerable to identity theft by cybercriminals, computer security firm Sophos warned Thursday.

It urged users to be aware of the security risks before signing up for Facebook's next-generation online messaging service that blends online chat, text messages and other real-time conversation tools with traditional email.

"Users need to realise that these new features increase the attack surface on the Facebook platform, and make personal accounts all the more alluring for cybercriminals to break into," said Sophos senior technology consultant Graham Cluley.

"Facebook accounts will now be linked with many more people in the users' social circles -- opening up new opportunities for identity fraudsters to launch attacks," he added in a press statement.

Sophos noted that fraudsters are increasingly using hacked Facebook accounts to send spam messages -- compared with traditional emails -- because they are more likely to be opened by recipients lured to think the messages came from friends.

"Users also need to be aware that Facebook will be storing a complete archive of all their communications with one person. This raises concerns as to how this data could be misused if it fell into the wrong hands," Cluley said.

from Australia every month just to sustain its massive stock of 250,000 cows -- about double the number of dairy cows in the entire state of Florida.

The project could draw attention to the possibilities of biogas, the magazine quoted Ann Wilkie, professor of environmental microbiology at the University of Florida, as saying.

"It shows this is not a phantom technology we have to wait for in the future," she said. "It's something we can do now to deal with existing waste, and garner renewable energy."

China's rapidly growing dairy farming industry is a major new source of greenhouse-gas emissions.

But Huishan's new system

will prevent methane, which is 23 times more potent than carbon dioxide as a greenhouse gas, from reaching the atmosphere, according to Technology Review.

It will also reduce waste and odours, and produce a valuable organic fertiliser that's safer than raw manure.

China has become the biggest source of the greenhouse gases blamed for global warming and the government has embarked on a huge programme to develop renewable energies such as hydroelectric, wind and other power sources.

The Chinese government estimates that millions of small farms already have such primitive manure digesters, according to the publication.



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Health & Living

Work teams who share negative emotions better at problem-solving



Work teams who openly express their negative feelings share more information, have greater solidarity and are better at solving complicated analytical problems, a new study has found.

Many businesses and organizations want employees to limit negative emotions and only show positive ones. But a study from the Netherlands suggests that isn't always the right strategy.

Participants were shown cheerful or sad films and then monitored as they worked together on difficult decision-making tasks. Groups who saw a sad film and then talked about it before they started their task did the best on their assignment.

Dutch researcher Annefloor Klep also gave certain groups the impression that there was a problem with their relationships. If the members of these groups talked about these problems, they quickly put them aside and worked as a team on their task.

The study also found that sharing positive emotions can help with creative tasks, especially if team members are sure about their feelings. However, a team handled analytical tasks better if its members shared negative emotions.

Sharing emotions can benefit teams that often work together over long periods of time, Klep concluded.

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New AIDS cases fall by one fifth in a decade: UN

GENEVA (AFP) – The number of new cases of HIV/AIDS has dropped by about one-fifth over the past decade but millions of people are still missing out on major progress in prevention and treatment, the UN said on Tuesday.

In 2009, 2.6 million people contracted the HIV virus that causes AIDS, down 19 percent from the 3.1 million

recorded in 2001, said UNAIDS, the UN agency spearheading the international campaign against the disease.

"Fifty-six nations around the world have stabilised or significantly reduced infections," UNAIDS Executive Director Michel Sidibe told journalists.

But about half of the

60 million people who caught HIV/AIDS since the start of the pandemic 30 years ago have died, according to the agency.

Sidibe urged caution over the growing impact of prevention measures and medical treatment highlighted in the 2010 global report on the AIDS epidemic and warned about a

slowdown in finance.

"We have halted and begun to reverse the epidemic. Fewer people are becoming infected with HIV and fewer people are dying from AIDS," he said.

"However we are not yet in a position to say 'mission accomplished'," he added in the report.

About 33.3 million

people worldwide were living with the HIV virus that causes AIDS at the end of last year -- about 100,000 less than in 2008.

The UNAIDS chief heralded a "prevention revolution" in the pipeline, including a gel that could help women protect themselves, and a breakthrough on drugs treatment.

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Slovenian promotes the simple life



Photo above shows Ales Cerin holding up a plate of home-cooked food in his home in Ljubljana, Slovenia. Cerin, a father of four who wants to promote a simple and modest lifestyle, raise awareness of global poverty and over-consumption in the West, discovered he could do it but only if he grew his own vegetables and fruit. Cerin has been spending 1.01 euro a day on average for food over the past two months, eating fruits and vegetables grown in his garden. Photo below shows Ales Cerin collecting vegetables in his garden



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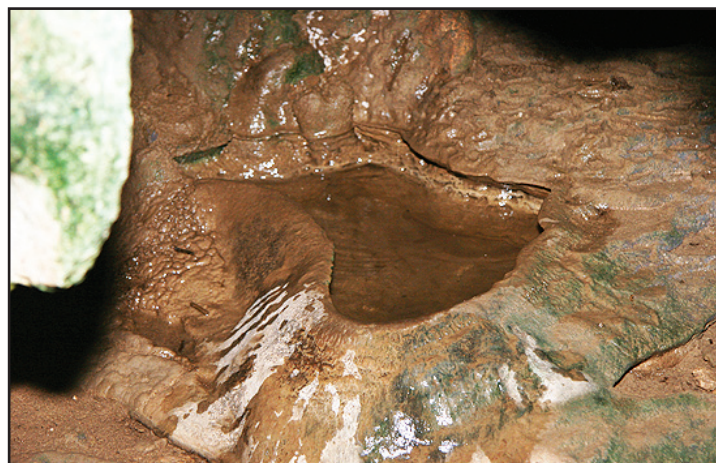
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A must see while on Aruba! The "Fontein Caves"



the water, birds in the trees in complete serenity. The "Fontein" Cave was made by the power of the sea, a little bit strange when you see the sea 300 meters away from the cave. But Aruba has changed and is still changing, just like the whole world does.

The "Fontein" Cave is formed by coral, limestone and minerals. When visiting the cave you will think it is just formed by rocks, but once inside one can see how special it is as it changes all the time. In the cave there are a lot of bats, the long nose and long tongue bat.

In the "Fontein" Cave Indian drawings were found, only at the beginning of the cave, meaning they used the cave only for protection against the weather. The drawings are probably made with iron oxide (extracted from coral) and from juice of the Brazilian tree. The rangers of Arikok National Park are protecting the drawings really good, because some of them have been completely damaged by the sea wind and humans. The cave is in a nature area, full of Aruba's flora and fauna. Sometimes the rangers catch snakes and they put them for a few days in a terrarium so tourists can see what lives on Aruba. You can visit the cave everyday from 9:30 a.m. till 4:15 p.m. And for the real cave freak, together with a ranger you can walk up to 250 meters into the cave.

"Fontein" Cave is one of Aruba natural wonders and is well worth a visit. Don't forget your camera!

Around the world, tourists do a lot of site-seeing. That's the way they learn about other cultures and their histories. Aruba offers a great sanctuary to lay in the sun and get a tan, but there is much more to this small island.

One of the island's treasures are the "Fontein" caves located in Aruba's National Park, Parke Arikok.

Aruba has a lot of caves, some are small others very big, some are under the sea others above the sea, in some of them Indian drawings were found while in others only a few fos-

sils. Every cave has its own distinct uniqueness which sets it apart. The "Fontein" Cave (fountain cave) got this name because there is a spring water source in the cave. Years ago when there was no tap water the Aruban community got water out of the "Fontein" Cave. For safety they first boiled the water just to be sure the bacteria were killed. The area around the cave is very green because of the water as it is not only found inside the cave but also outside. It's nice to walk in the surrounding area where one can see the fishes in



Miss Universe Aruba candidates receive motivation lecture



On the 22th of November at Radisson Meeting room, The Art of Dining Service Management gave a training called Motivation Session to the 11 beautiful Miss Universe Aruba candidates who talked about self esteem, moral and self appreciation. Since the candidates will be experiencing some very tense and competitive moments, a moral booster was essential for them to understand that they are unique in each and every way. The session started at 8 and finished at 9.

Barbara Bush hopes Sarah Palin will stay in Alaska

WASHINGTON (AFP) — Feisty former first lady Barbara Bush said in an interview airing this week that Republican favorite Sarah Palin, who has hinted at having White House ambitions, should instead stay in her remote wilderness state of Alaska.

Speaking to CNN television alongside her husband ex-president George H.W. Bush, the former first lady offered a backhanded compliment to Palin, before delivering her zinger.


"I sat next to her once. Thought she was beautiful. And she's very happy in

Alaska -- I hope she'll stay there," said the former first lady, who is known for her quick wit and her tart tongue.

Bush, 85, has spent a great deal of time in the White House, first as the wife, and later as the mother, of the US president.


Her son, George W. Bush, left the office in January 2009, after serving two terms.

Palin, the Republican vice presidential candidate in the last presidential election, frequently has hinted that she would run for the top White House job.



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PICKLES



MOMMA



CALVIN and HOBBS



CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1. Official records
5. Spring mo.
8. Lawman Wyatt
12. Rob Roy, e.g.
16. Imperfection
17. Gen. Robert
18. Neighborhood
19. Relocate
20. Emanation
21. Ditty
22. Harangue
23. Pearl Buck heroine
24. Fights back
26. Golfer Woosnam
28. Warble
30. Unreliable citizen, to Paine
35. Mortarboard dangle
38. Honkers
39. Tailor's spike
40. In the manner of
41. Canadian prov.
43. Holy women: abbr.
45. Repose
46. Columnist Barrett
48. Scottish alders
50. Knight's wife
53. Bishop's seat
54. Toddlers
55. Paragon
58. Plantation
60. Sometime chum
66. Denials
67. More rational
68. Poet Walter de la
70. Hasty escape
73. "the Woods"
75. Footless creature
77. Baseball's Moreno
78. Teensy particle
80. Emerald Isle
83. Dill, formerly
85. Roof finial
86. Pressure
89. Caravansary
91. Type of voyage
93. Undependable allies, to Paine
96. French river
97. Pilot's concern: abbr.
98. Celestial
102. Italian volcano
104. Grazing mothers
106. Gaelic
108. Yorkshire river
109. Safecracker
110. Undiluted
111. Old French coins
112. Brad, e.g.

DOWN

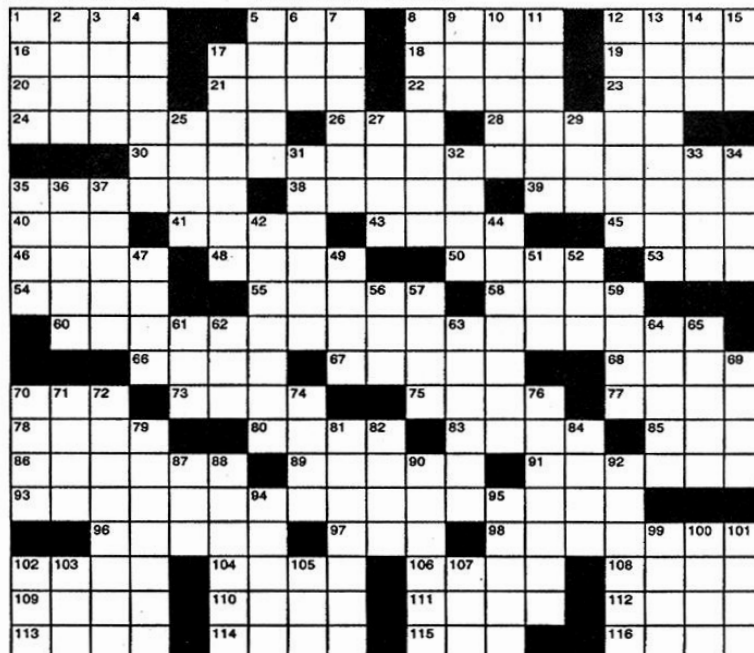
113. Alleviate
114. Turn around
115. Nicklaus's peg
116. Heavy cart
1. Distantly
2. Sherlock's find
3. Seasoned sailors
4. Bides time
5. At (puzzled)
6. Scribe's tool
7. Ruling government
8. Sincere
9. Coach Parseghian
10. Lets
11. Customer
12. Burn flamelessly
13. Crashes
14. Eggs
15. Boxing count
17. Pip's love
25. butter
27. Singing brothers
29. de la Cite
31. Kampala's nation
32. Mr. Fantastic Richards
33. Alternatively

34. Nerve network
35. Piquant
36. Detached
37. Anita Park
42. Italian seaport
44. Yellow-orange color
47. "It's to tell..."
49. Places
51. Blemish
52. Certain silk producer
56. Discovery cry
57. Actress Olin
59. Brief note
61. King, in Chartres
62. Metropolis, in Bath
63. Mend
64. Designated
65. Curtain
69. John Boy's sister
70. Lad's lady
71. Certain Aleutian

72. Day parts
74. Seine tributary
76. Downgrades
79. Communication
81. Glue again
82. Of a certain time
84. London gallery
87. "Loves You"
88. Temptresses of Odysseus
90. Bear witness
92. "No man is an..."
94. Spiral staircase part
95. Magazine number
99. Prevaricator
100. Met solo
101. Trust
102. Hurricane part
103. Oolong, e.g.
105. Claire
107. Beluga product

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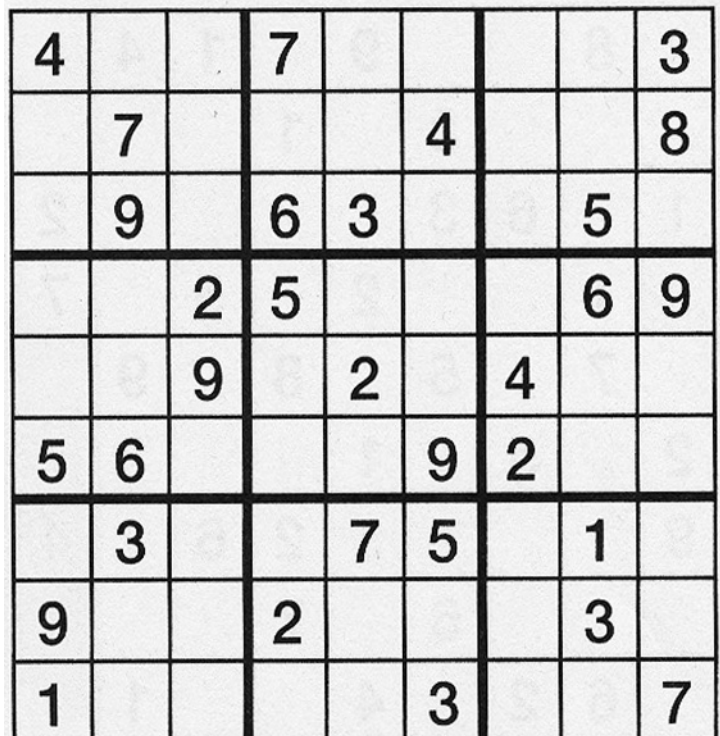
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4	7	9	6	8	2	1	3	5
9	8	1	4	2	7	5	6	3
2	1	6	9	7	8	4	3	5
1	7	2	6	8	4	9	5	3
9	8	4	9	2	8	6	1	7
6	9	8	7	1	9	2	4	5
4	9	7	8	6	1	9	6	2
8	2	9	4	6	1	9	7	5
5	6	1	2	9	7	9	8	4

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9. A number is Never repeated in a row or column. In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9.



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WASHINGTON -- People are seen walking through Union Station in Washington. The US is bracing for its busiest travel season over the Thanksgiving holiday. (AFP PHOTO)



During the years before the financial crisis, Ireland's booming economy attracted tens of thousands of immigrants. But now, as the country faces up to years of austerity, many of those immigrants have left and young Irish people, like generations before them, are seeing their futures overseas.

Obama, Biden celebrate US auto industry renewal

KOKOMO, Indiana (AFP) - President Barack Obama defiantly warned "don't bet against America" yesterday, celebrating his rescue of the US auto industry and predicting the economy would recover despite a slow rebound.

Obama traveled to a Chrysler factory in Indiana to recall how his administration

had bucked much political advice and helped bail out the industry last year, fearing its collapse could endanger millions of jobs.

"We had a confidence in the American worker. Today we know that was the right decision," Obama said, after touring a transmission factory in of Kokomo with Joe Biden.



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Fed slashes US growth forecasts

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The US economy will grow at a much slower pace than expected this year and next, as unemployment remains stubbornly high, according to bleak Federal Reserve estimates published yesterday.

Painting a stark picture of the short-term fate of the world's largest economy, minutes from the Fed's last meeting showed that growth would be around half a percentage point less than expected this year and in 2011.

Minutes from a November meeting showed that already anemic growth predictions have been slashed to 2.4-2.5 percent this year and 3.0-3.6 percent in the next.

Unemployment is not expected to go below 9.5 percent

this year and 8.9 percent in 2011.

Against this backdrop the minutes show the Fed's top policy panel wrestling over its decision to roll out a controversial 600 billion dollar spending plan to boost the recovery.

Eying a recovery that "proceeded at a modest rate in recent months," "most" members of the bank's top panel agreed the measures were warranted.

Members of the Federal Open Market Committee pointed to the fact that the bank is failing in its mandate to keep unemployment rates and inflation stable, as cause to act.

The bank noted "only a gradual improvement in labor market conditions," and a continued "low rate of inflation."

Bank economists reported recent improvements in consumer spending, business investment in equipment and exports, but construction remained "depressed" reflecting an "exceptionally weak" housing market.

They noted "surveys taken in September and October indicated that consumers were slightly more pessimistic about the economic outlook than earlier in the year."

The global picture also provided some cause for concern, as growth in emerging market economies "appeared to have slowed markedly."

By buying massive amounts of US bonds the Fed hopes to push down the long term cost of borrowing and to spur investors to buy other assets.

Irish PM fights for survival as euro fears resurface

DUBLIN, Ireland (AFP) - Irish Prime Minister Brian Cowen battled for his survival yesterday, while Germany said Ireland's international bailout showed the future of the euro itself was on the line.

The efforts of the European Union and the International Monetary Fund to shore up the debt-laden Irish economy were called into question as the euro sank to a two-month low, dipping under 1.34 dollars.

As political anger at Cowen and the Irish government grew at home, Portugal -- tipped to be the next euro-zone economy to need a bailout -- was bracing itself for a general strike today.

Cowen faced fresh calls from opposition parties for a

snap election, after saying Monday he would go to the polls early next year but only when he had seen through a budget seen as crucial to obtaining the EU and IMF loans worth up to 90 billion euros (122.5 billion dollars).

He told a sombre parliament yesterday that passing the budget, which he has promised to submit on December 7, was his first priority and overrode any other political considerations.

"The best statement of confidence for this country is to pass this budget," Cowen said.

The budget will be preceded by the publication today of a four-year roadmap

of austerity measures.


The parliament is unlikely to vote on the budget until January, meaning that an election could not take place until February or March.

But Sinn Fein, which has four lawmakers in the parliament, or Dail, tabled a motion of no confidence in Cowen yesterday, saying that his government was a "charade which is an insult to the Irish people."

Cowen's own Fianna Fail party -- which has dominated Irish politics since the 1930s -- is also said to be restless, with several senior members reported to have urged Cowen to stand aside after two troubled years in charge.

YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer

PRO	BOP	BEST	FALL
AIRS	RARA	ARIA	AGEE
CLAMBAKES	BARBECUES		
ELLERY	SEES	UTTER	
LAS	CABS	ALAS	
OVAL	COIR	MAP	ELD
MARSHMALLOW	UTE	BOO	
ELA	OAST	ROSE	ROVE
NETTLES	STERE	VINES	
IDS	STONE	HAT	
DEANS	PARTS	REPEATS	
ERLE	MONA	EERO	LAI
AIT	WAS	WEINER	ROAST
LEO	HST	AMOS	DIKE
RATS	ASPS	IRE	
DEERE	ESTE	NATIVE	
FISHFRIES	DUTCHOVEN		
ERSE	ELLE	ELIA	AERO
DEEM	DEYS	ENS	SOL



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The Queen's offers an authentic taste of Aruba!



Varella, Luisa and the next generation of chef



Keshi Yena with plantains, vegetables and pica

One of the distinctions of Aruban cuisine is incorporating unique indigenous ingredients such as in Wild Cucumber Stew and a particular light fish chowder accompanied by the local specialties pan bati (corn meal pancake) and funchi (the local version of polenta.) Thus, eating out at the authentically Aruban restaurant, The Queen's, is very affordable, with a true taste of regional cuisine.

Owner Varella Innocencia confesses she opened her restaurant in Oranjestad because "I grew up with this, and loved serving people our island food. My father and mother operated the little restaurant across from the Americana, which some may remember, the original Arawak. I remember how much our customers loved trying the local food, and they especially loved the prices!"

Varella's mom, Luisa, is still in the kitchen, conjuring up the delicious dishes that have been in her family for generations, which is acknowledged on the menu with "Carni Stoba di Mamachi"- "Grandma's Beef Stew," and their Arawak Steak.

We also bumped into island visitors Jim and Callie from Michigan, who were eager to try island food, and were more than pleased with their venture

into local cuisine. "We will definitely return to The Queen's," they affirmed, "the food was delicious and the prices are more than right."

The menu sports a variety of steaks and tenderloin, fresh caught seafood, Caribbean lobster, and of course, one of our favorites, and what we consider a true test of local cuisine, "Keshi Yena"- "Filled Cheese." This is a tasty, filling stew of chicken, with other ingredients that are handy that day, all incased in a thick skin of melted Gouda. It was very satisfying and particularly memorable paired with The Queen's garlic bread and very special Pica, a mix of chopped onions and the famous local hot pepper, Madame Janette. Not overly spicy, it lent that perfect bit of tang to this deliciously picturesque meal.

Located next to the Harbor at the end of the Weststraat, The Queen's is open from 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m., daily, offering indoor and outdoor dining. They also have daily specials, aside from an extensive menu; made from whatever is in season and Mama Luisa was in the mood to prepare.

We noticed a steady stream of islanders coming for lunch in the pleasant surroundings or picking up take-out containers; always a sure sign of a winner is where the locals like to eat!

Gold Coast Aruba: This is the time to invest

Managers of Gold Coast Aruba, the island's newest and most innovative gated community, report that sales are picking up nicely as the global economy begins to recover and those with a bit of disposal income are looking to invest in a sure thing. Gold Coast Directing Manager Fito Croes has noticed a surprising percentage of owners are barely using the villas or town homes they purchase, but taking advantage of Gold Coast's rental services to turn their investment into ready income.

"The greater portion of home owners are using their 'home away from home' in Aruba to escape the winter months, or spend holidays with the family on the island," he remarked, "but I am gratified by how many are buying because they felt secure with real estate investment on Aruba. They really study the history and economy of the island and are impressed with the political stability and continually increasing value of prime locations. Gold Coast is in the heart of Malmok, considered Aruba's most exclusive community; in this area, the value of properties has only increased over time. It is minutes to the best beaches and all the action, and yet offers a quiet and secluded getaway; we are very pleased by the response to our concept."

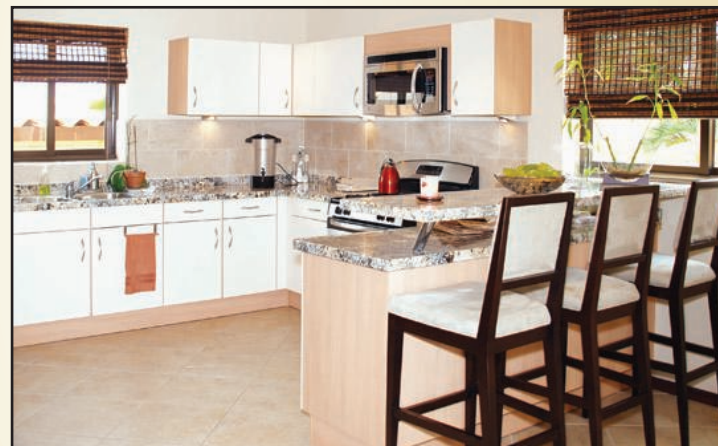
Fito, with his sister Mayrin and brother Rudy run Cas Bon, which has been constructing homes and building developments for all budgets for nearly twenty years. "Gold Coast Aruba is the jewel in our crown," observes Fito. "We were very excited about this project; the scope and amenities. We talked to countless island visitors to find out what they would really want in a permanent residence on Aruba, and took from there."



Input from frequent vacationers who dreamed of their own home in Aruba will eventually be a community of 260 town homes, villas and condominiums with a stunning clubhouse complemented by two additional pools decks, one of which has been open for a year, the other will be ready for the holidays 2010. They expect the clubhouse to be ready for the community with a workout room and specta-

homes. An elegant and chic standard package is available, or island designers will assist owners in finishing the décor to their specific tastes.

There are many aspects to purchasing property; not the least is the future value of the investment. To further enhance this, Gold Coast managers have inaugurated a number of in-house services and are now negotiating with Interval International to pro-



vide a huge international pool for investors to tap for renters either short or long term. Property exchange for a vacation in another destination will also be available. Gold Coast's own rental services have also proven highly successful in assisting owners in renting their villas; 24-hour security and maintenance services also tip the scales when it is time to make a decision. Aside from all this, housekeeping, babysitting and catering services are also available for community members as well as airport pick-up and drop-off and pre-shopping services so cupboards and refrigerators are stocked upon arrival, which can all be arranged through their home management department.

The design of the structures is open, airy and spacious, fully deploying the island environment, with the finest quality construction and finishing available. Partnering with two of Aruba's top providers of kitchens and bathrooms enables developers to offer custom options for clients, so buyers can individualize their

Visit their website: www.goldcoastaruba.com for more details and availability or call 586-2200 to arrange a personal tour.

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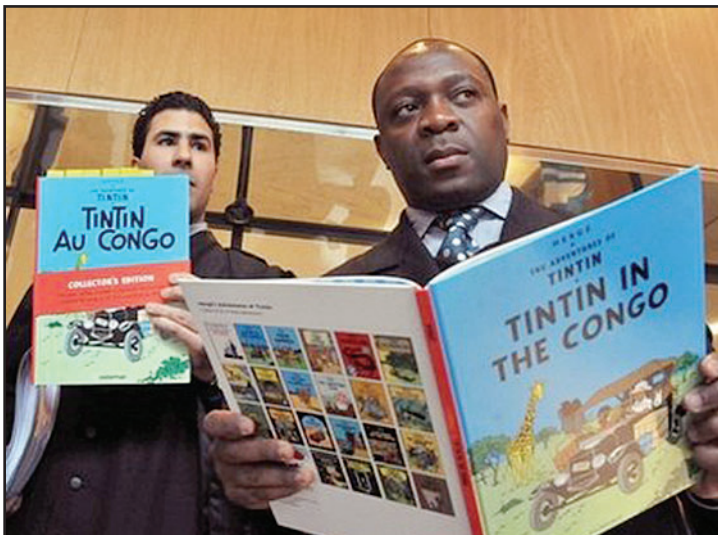
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Belgium anti-racism group urges 'Tintin in the Congo' ban



BRUSSELS, Belgium (AFP) — A black rights group urged a Belgian court Monday to pull the popular comic book "Tintin in the Congo" from library bookshelves, saying it depicts racist and offensive clichés about Africans.

Bienvenu Mbutu Mondondo, a Congolese man who first filed the complaint, and an anti-racism association want the court to ban the book written by celebrated Belgian author Herge in 1931, or at least slap a warning label on it.

"It is not Herge we are putting on trial, it is the racism ingrained in people's minds at the time," Ahmed L'hedim, lawyer for Mondondo and the Representative Council of Black Associations, told the court, according to Belga news agency.

The plaintiffs said the book about the adventures of the intrepid reporter and his dog Snowy in Belgian Congo, now the Democratic Republic of Congo, should at least be relegated to the adult sections of li-

braries.

Sandrine Carneroli, a lawyer for publisher Casterman et Moulinsart SA, sought to have the case thrown out on grounds that it did not belong in civil court but in a trade tribunal "since we are talking about banning sales."

Another attorney for the publisher said at a previous hearing in May that a ban would be like a "book burning."

The next hearing is set for December 8 and a decision is expected within the following two months.

The 1931 tale of Tintin's trip to the former Belgian colony is controversial because of its depiction of colonialism and Africans, as well as casual violence towards animals.

The Belgian author Herge, real name Georges Remi (1907-1983), justified the book by saying it was merely a reflection of the naive views of the time. Some of the scenes were revised for later editions.

Britain's Prince William to wed in April at historic abbey

LONDON, England (AFP) — Britain's Prince William and Kate Middleton are to marry on April 29 at Westminster Abbey, the historic London church where the funeral of his mother Diana was held in 1997, royal officials said yesterday.

Downing Street announced that there would be a special public holiday on the day, perhaps the biggest royal event in Britain since the ill-fated union of William's parents Prince Charles and Diana nearly three decades ago.

"The venue has long associations with the royal family — it is in many ways the royal family's church — and of course with Prince William personally," said Jamie Lowther-Pinkerton, private secretary to the prince.

The imposing gothic abbey has been the British monarchy's coronation church for centuries. Queen Elizabeth II also married Prince Philip at the abbey in 1947.



Kate Middleton and Prince William

ago, he also revealed that he had given Kate his mother's diamond and sapphire engagement ring.

The wedding has given Britain a boost as it battens down the economic hatches ahead of harsh budget cuts aimed at cutting the country's huge deficit, and with its armed forces mired in a tenth year of war in Afghanistan.

Mindful of the economic

"To that end the royal family and the Middleton family will pay for the wedding."

The announcement has sparked calls for William and Kate to ascend directly to the throne — leapfrogging his less popular father Prince Charles and his second wife Camilla a constitutionally problematic arrangement.

Four newspaper polls at the weekend showed that a majority of Britons would like to see him become king when Queen Elizabeth II dies and thought that he would be a better monarch than the 62-year-old Charles.

Amid an outpouring of national mourning in Britain after her death, Diana's funeral was held at Westminster Abbey, with pictures of William and his younger brother Harry sadly watching her coffin beamed around the world.

The shadow of Diana, her famously unhappy marriage and her ceaseless pursuit by the media — photographers were chasing her at the time of her death — has hung over her son and his relationship with Kate from the beginning.

William has reportedly taken steps to prepare his fiancée to deal with the glare of the media, as well as with the formality of royal life which Kate at a press conference last week admitted were "quite daunting."

The then-Lady Diana Spencer married William's father Prince Charles at St Paul's Cathedral in July 1981 in a ceremony that drew hundreds of thousands of people into the streets. But they divorced in 1996 amid admissions of adultery on both sides — in Charles' case with Camilla.

Public support for the wedding has, however, not extended into a desire for it to receive public funding, with a poll at the weekend found that 82 percent of people said the royals should cover the cost of the event.



Westminster Abbey

The date and venue were revealed just under a week after the second-in-line to the throne officially revealed his engagement, capping a romance that began at St Andrews University in Scotland nearly eight years earlier.

In what the prince said was a way of giving a posthumous role to his mother who died in a car crash in Paris 13 years

circumstances, Lowther-Pinkerton said the costs of the wedding would be paid for by the royal family and Middleton's parents.

"All parties involved in the wedding, not least Prince William and Miss Middleton, want to ensure that a balance is struck between an enjoyable day and the current economic situation," he said.

\$10,000 in prize money for the winners! Marriott Stellaris Beach Tennis champions get rewarded for their outstanding efforts in the sand



Money, money, money, in the form of casino chips was

doled out by the handful at the Marriott Stellaris Casino last Monday evening, where the awards ceremony of the Marriott Stellaris Beach Tennis Event took place. The tournament's main sponsor handed over \$ 10,000 in prize money for the winners in the various categories during the two-hour long Happy Hour, which accounted for lots of happy faces. The fabulous house band Crystal Breeze took care of the music during the evening.

Organizers Sjoerd de Vries and Jochem Ros thanked the international and local participants for their enthusiastic presence

during their tournament; they hope everyone will be back next year in even larger numbers. Especially the group from Brazil was a joyful bunch; not only did they play fantastically well, they had a lot of fun in the process of winning their matches. Brazil also won the Nations Cup, by the way.

A special mention should be made of the champions and sub-champions of the Fun Men category: Benjamin Kloes and Tjerk Visser, Anton Blok and Dylan Guest were too young to be allowed entrance in the casino, so they had their photo taken outside. The same held true for 15-year old Advanced Men winners Brian Helmeier

and Keith Ponson. Keep these six names in mind, as you will hear a lot more about these Aruban beach tennis players. They are the island's promise for the fu-

ture!
Photos show the happy faces at the super Marriott Stellaris Casino awards evening. See you all again next year!



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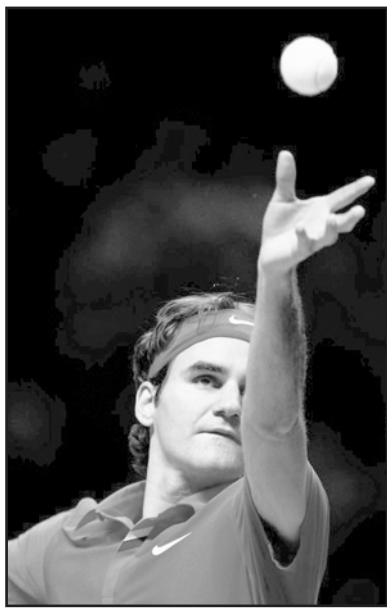
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Federer turns on the style to rout Murray



LONDON (AFP) - Roger Federer was in sublime form as he moved closer to a place in the semi-finals of the ATP World Tour Finals with a 6-4, 6-2 win over Andy Murray at London's O2 Arena on Tuesday.

Federer had lost his last two meetings with Murray and has never been com-

pletely comfortable when facing the British number one, but the Swiss star was at his imperious best as he romped to his second successive Group B victory in the prestigious end-of-year event.

Due to the complex nature of the tournament rules, Federer will seal his place in the last four later on Tuesday if David Ferrer defeats Robin Soderling or if Soderling beats Ferrer in three sets.

Either way, the world number two looks in the mood to end a frustrating year on a high by claiming his fifth Tour Finals title.

Murray, the fifth seed, must now defeat Ferrer in his final match on Thursday to have any chance of going through.

Federer said: "I knew the difficulty of playing Andy. He's beaten me the last two times so I had my hands full today."

"I'm surprised how clean the score was. He didn't have his best match but I'm happy I'm playing so well obviously."

Murray added: "I didn't feel tight but I got off to a bad start in both sets, which doesn't help."

"I did the two most important things in tennis very poorly, which is serve and return. And against someone as good as Roger, you can't do them badly. That's why the score line was like it was."

The Scot had beaten Federer in Masters finals in Toronto and Shanghai this year and didn't drop a set on either occasion as he improved his career record against the Swiss to an impressive 8-5.

Yet for all Murray's success against Federer, he has fared less well when the stakes have been highest.

Saints, Jets, Patriots heavy favourites in holiday games

NEW YORK (AFP) - Reigning Super Bowl champion New Orleans and this season's NFL pace-setters, the New York Jets and New England, are heavy favourites over struggling rivals in Thursday's US Thanksgiving holiday games.

The Patriots, level with the Jets at an NFL-best 8-2 atop the AFC East division, will visit traditional Thanksgiving host Detroit, 2-8, while New York will entertain the Cincinnati Bengals, also 2-8.

Drew Brees, who sparked the Saints to last season's Super Bowl crown with a victory over Indianapolis, will lead New Orleans into Dallas to face the 3-7 Cowboys. The Saints, 7-3, are a game behind Atlanta in the NFC South division.

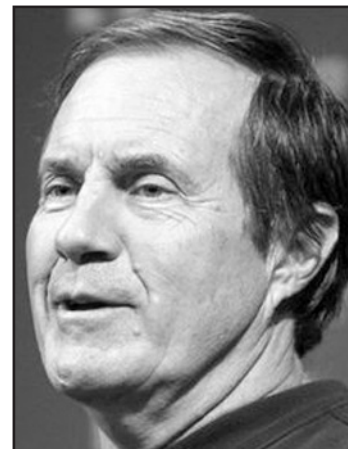
A short turn-around time for still-sore gridiron players, facing their second game in five days, makes the annual showcase matchups a physical grind and provides little time to prepare for opposing schemes.

"We will have a late 'turkey day'," Patriots blocker Matt Light said. "There is a lot coming at you. You have got to squeeze a lot in where normally you have the extra couple of days. It's going to be a tough game."

Patriots coach Bill Belichick, who played two seasons for the Lions, sees benefits for Detroit in playing the holiday hosts every year.

"It's great to be in this routine," he said. "It was a game that you knew every year was your game. You knew you were going to be playing at home. It was something you were comfortable with and you actually looked forward to."

Only Houston has surrendered more yardage this sea-



New England Patriots head coach Bill Belichick faces reporters during an NFL football news conference

son than the New England defensive unit, but the Lions, whose road losing streak has stretched to an NFL-record 26 games, might not have the talent to take advantage.

Dallas defeated Detroit 35-19 last Sunday, with Jon Kitna throwing three touchdown passes for the Cowboys, now 2-0 under interim coach Jason Garrett.

"When you are looking for crumbs, it doesn't take but a little piece to get you to smile, and these (victories) have been a couple of nice little pieces," Cowboys owner Jerry Jones said.

Saints quarterback Drew Brees is coming off a 382-yard, four-touchdown passing performance in a 34-19 victory over Seattle and New Orleans boasts the NFL's top

pass defensive unit.

"We are playing as well as we have played all season," said Brees, who has a touchdown pass in 24 consecutive games. "We're excited. We're knocking at the door."

The Jets are testing the stress levels of supporters, having become the first team to win back-to-back overtime games before Mark Sanchez's touchdown pass with 10 seconds in regulation Sunday rallied New York past Houston.

"I want to apologize to all the Jets fans for affecting the heart a little bit, but we will take the win," Jets coach Rex Ryan said.

"If I have to apologize for it every week from here on out, I will, all the way to the Super Bowl."

The Bengals squandered a 31-14 half-time lead in a 49-31 loss to Buffalo last weekend, Cincinnati's 10th loss in a row to the Bills ensuring they will not have a winning season for the 18th time in the past two decades.

"We are terrible," Cincinnati receiver Terrell Owens said. "I don't blame the fans for booing us. I don't blame people for not wanting to come and see the performance we've put up."

"All I know is right now we are terrible. Maybe I'm bad luck. But at this point, it's just unthinkable. Unbelievable."

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Haan fined 500,000 euros over Cameroon dispute

YAOUNDE (AFP) - Dutch footballing great Arie Haan has been ordered by FIFA to pay the Cameroon Football Federation (Fecafoot) 500,000 euros for breach of contract, the national federation announced on Tuesday.

Fecafoot revealed that world football governing body FIFA had made their ruling against 62-year-old Haan on November 16 and also ordered him to pay 20,000 Swiss francs (14,810 euros) in costs.

"The litigation between the two parties was based on the unilateral termination of the contract between the

Dutch coach and Fecafoot, Fecafoot announced on its website.

Haan, a member of the outstanding Dutch side that gave the world Total Football and was on the losing side in successive World Cup finals (1974 and 1978), has 10 days to appeal the decision in writing.

Haan was named Cameroon coach in August 2006 on a two-year contract.

The contract stipulated notably that he had to "live in Cameroon and present a year-long programme to Fecafoot", neither of which he fulfilled before he announced he was resigning in January 2007.

Texas slugger Hamilton wins MVP honour

NEW YORK (AFP) - Texas outfielder Josh Hamilton, who completed a comeback story from drug and alcohol rehabilitation to Major League Baseball stardom, was named the American League's Most Valuable Player on Tuesday.

Hamilton led the major leagues with a .359 batting average, powering the top-hitting team in the sport into its first World Series. The Rangers, who had never won a playoff series in 50 seasons, lost to San Francisco in the final.

Having fought back after eight trips to addiction clinics, Hamilton hit 32 home runs and drove in 100 runs for the Rangers during the season, then hit .190 in the playoffs with five homers and nine runs batted in.



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